

SECRET

Approved For Release 2006/03/16 : CIA-RDP79-00849A000600060022-8

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REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT TO L-2622 THROUGH L-2630  
27 JANUARY 1967  
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PROBABLE INSURGENT ACTIVITY  
PHU PHAN AREA, THAILAND  
1625N 10418E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THESE BRIEFING BOARDS DEPICT INDICATIONS OF INSURGENT-TYPE ACTIVITY IN NORTHEAST THAILAND ON RECONNAISSANCE PHOTOGRAPHY RECENTLY ACQUIRED IN SUPPORT OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION KEY PROJECT ON THAILAND.

2. LOCATION:

THE PHU PHAN AREA IS IN NORTHEAST THAILAND AND THE INSURGENT CAMPS ARE LOCATED IN A REMOTE WOODED AREA APPROXIMATELY 25 NM WEST-SOUTHWEST OF SAVANNAKHET, LAOS.

3. BACKGROUND:

THE P. I. KEY REQUESTED THE SPECIAL MISSION TO BE FLOWN AFTER A DETAILED SCAN OF [REDACTED] WHICH

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REVEALED SUSPECT INSURGENT ACTIVITY IN THE PHU PHAN AREA. FOLLOWING THE RECEIPT OF THE SPECIAL MISSION, ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY AT A SCALE OF 1:5000 TO 1:6000 WAS REQUESTED COVERING SIX OF THE MOST PROMISING TARGETS REVEALED [REDACTED]

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4. COLLATERAL:

COLLATERAL SOURCES REPORT THAT COMMUNIST INSURGENTS IN THE NORTHEAST HAVE GREATLY INCREASED THEIR ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST YEAR AND A HALF. TWO CAPTURED INSURGENTS REPORTED THAT THE COMMUNIST

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification

Declass Review by NGA

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PLAN CALLS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INSURGENT BASES IN THE MOUNTAIN RANGES, FROM WHICH INSURGENCY CAN GRADUALLY BE SPREAD TO ADJACENT RURAL AND URBAN AREAS, UNTIL SUBSTANTIAL SECTIONS OF THE COUNTRY ARE UNDER CONTROL. INSURGENCY IN THE NORTHEAST IS BELIEVED TO INVOLVE SIX HUNDRED TO ONE THOUSAND THAI GUERRILLAS -- REPORTEDLY ASSISTED BY A TRAINING CADRE OF UP TO ONE HUNDRED NORTH VIETNAMESE MILITARY PERSONNEL.

A BASIC TERRORIST TEAM CONSISTS OF ABOUT TEN MEN BUT SOMETIMES THEY ARE LARGER. FOR SECURITY, SUCH LARGER GROUPS OFTEN POST SMALL SUB-GROUPS AS PERIMETER GUARDS AND SOMETIMES DIG TRENCHES OR PLACE FALLEN TREES AS DEFENSE AGAINST A GOVERNMENT ATTACK.

SEVERAL WELL PLANNED SUBVERSIVE CAMPS HAVE BEEN LOCATED BY POLICE AND CACHES OF ARMS AND PROPAGANDA MATERIALS HAVE BEEN FOUND. ONE IN NONG KHAI PROVINCE HAD TRIANGULAR SHAPED FORTIFICATIONS WITH TRENCHES, FOXHOLES, PREDETERMINED FIELDS OF FIRE AND A FORWARD PERIMETER DEFENSE LINE. A LOCATION IN SAKON NAKHON PROVINCE HAD TWO ADJACENT CAMPS CAPABLE OF HANDLING THIRTY MEN EACH. THERE WERE FOXHOLES, CONNECTING TRENCHES AND AT LEAST TEN DEAD-END TRAILS OR TRAILS WHICH CIRCLED BACK INTO CAMP. ALTHOUGH THE TWO CAMPS WERE ONLY THIRTY YARDS APART, THEY WERE CONNECTED BY A WINDING 150-YARD-LONG TRAIL.

THE PRESENT INSURGENT ACTIVITY IN THAILAND IS SIMILAR TO THE

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INSURGENCY ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH VIETNAM IN 1956 AND 1957, WHEN THERE WAS ONLY A SMALL FORCE OF ARMED DISSIDENTS THAT CAUSED INFREQUENT INCIDENTS. THAILAND POSSESSES TO SOME DEGREE MANY OF THE CONDITIONS THAT TEND TO ENCOURAGE INSURGENCY, INCLUDING A SUBSISTENCE ECONOMY, ETHNIC RIVALRY, INACCESSIBLE REDOUBTS, POORLY DISTRIBUTED LAND AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES, AND A GENERAL INABILITY TO PROVIDE SECURITY TO OUTLYING DISTRICTS.

5. MISSION READOUT:

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[REDACTED] REVEAL INDICATIONS OF INSURGENT ACTIVITY IN AN APPROXIMATELY THIRTY SQUARE MILE AREA OF THE PHU PHAN AREA OF NORTH-EAST THAILAND. THE ACTIVITY CONSISTS OF AT LEAST NINE CAMPS AND SEVEN SEPARATE AREAS OF SUSPECT INSURGENT ACTIVITY. EACH OF THE CAMPS IS SMALL AND WELL CONCEALED, PROBABLY HOUSING FROM SEVEN TO TEN PERSONNEL EACH. EACH CONTAINS ONE OR TWO HUTS OR SHELTERS, SOME HAVING PERIMETER DEFENSES CONSISTING OF FOXHOLES, TRENCHES, WEAPONS EMPLACEMENTS AND LOG BARRIERS.

THE SPECIFIC LOCATIONS OF THE ACTIVITY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

AREA A: PROBABLE INSURGENT CAMP, 1628N 10417E (UTM VD246205 AND VD247208). NPIC L-2626

AREA B: PROBABLE INSURGENT CAMP, 1625N 10418E (UTM VD256153 AND VD259153). NPIC L-2622.

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AREA C: SUSPECT INSURGENT ACTIVITY, 1622N 10419E (UTM VD269109).

NPIC L-2623

AREA D: POSSIBLE INSURGENT CAMP, 1621N 10418E (UTM VD265079 AND  
VD259083). NPIC L-2630.

AREA E: SUSPECT INSURGENT CAMP, 1628N 10417E (UTM VD247218). NPIC L-2627.

AREA F: PROBABLE INSURGENT CAMP, 1626N 10418E (UTM VD261178). NPIC L-2628.

AREA G: SUSPECT INSURGENT ACTIVITY, 1621N 10419E (UTM VD286093). NPIC L-2629.

AREA H: PROBABLE INSURGENT CAMP, 1619N 10418E (UTM VD269048) AND  
VD268049). NPIC L-2624.

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ALL UTM COORDINATES ARE TAKEN FROM AMS SERIES L708, SHEETS  
5860 II AND 5859 I.

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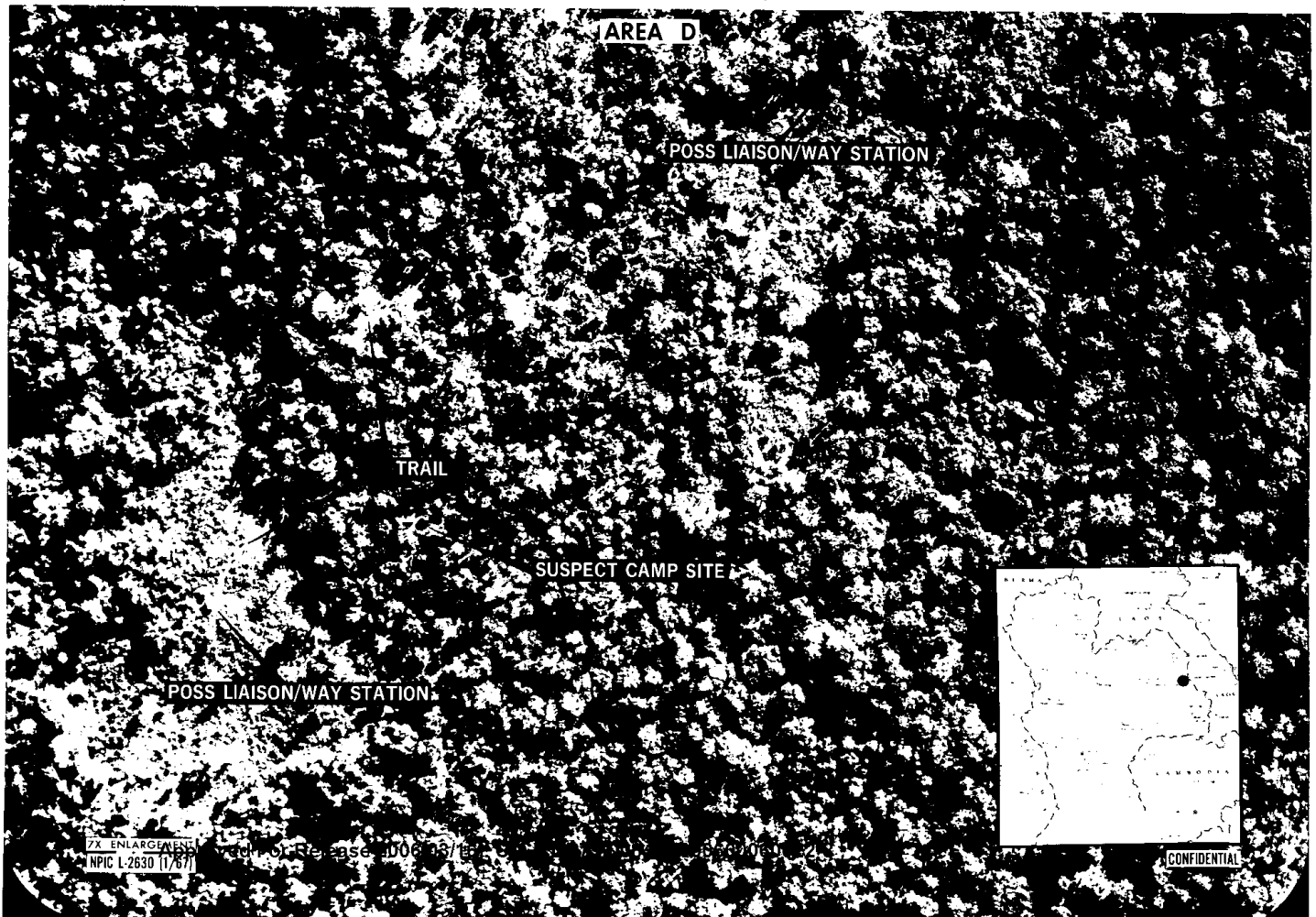
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**POSSIBLE INSURGENT CAMP  
PHU PHAN AREA, THAILAND  
16-21N 104-18E**



7X ENLARGEMENT  
NPIC L-2630 (1/67)

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